

REMARKS

Claims 1-44 are pending and allowed.

This amendment requests changes to claims 6, 10, and 16 under the provisions of rule 312.

All of the requested changes are of the editorial and/or grammatical type and are primarily submitted to cure antecedent deficiencies.

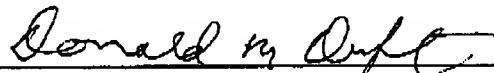
The requested changes contain no new matter and do not change the direction of scope of the claimed subject matter.

These changes were not earlier submitted since they were first discovered upon a final review of the application prior to paying the issue fee.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

29 Dec 03



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